

Introduced by Committee on Environmental Quality (Senators Lowenthal (Chair), Campbell, Chesbro, Cox, Escutia, Figueroa, Kuehl, Runner, and Simitian)

February 22, 2005

An act to repeal Section 21080.08 of the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental quality.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 974, as introduced, Committee on Environmental Quality. CEQA: exemption: rural infrastructure economic development projects.

The existing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared by contract, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on a project, as defined, that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment, or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA exempts from its provisions any activity or approval necessary for, or incidental to, project funding, or the authorization for the expenditure of funds for the project, by the Rural Economic Development Infrastructure Panel, as provided. The provisions of law establishing that panel were repealed by Chapter 229 of the Statutes of 2003.

This bill would repeal those provisions relating to that exemption under CEQA.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 21080.08 of the Public Resources Code
2 is repealed.
3 ~~21080.08. This division shall not apply to any activity or~~
4 ~~approval necessary for or incidental to project funding, or the~~
5 ~~authorization for the expenditure of funds for the project, by the~~
6 ~~Rural Economic Development Infrastructure Panel pursuant to~~
7 ~~Article 5 (commencing with Section 15373.6) of Chapter 2.5 of~~
8 ~~Part 6.7 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~

O